## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF KANSAS

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) Case No. 22-1030-HLT-KGG
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## **ORDER**

This matter is before the Court on Plaintiff Gabriel Desmond Yankey, Jr.'s Motion to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* (ECF No. 3, *sealed*) and supporting Affidavit of Financial Status (ECF No. 3-1, *sealed*). For the reasons outlined below, Plaintiff's Motion to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* (ECF No. 3) is GRANTED.

Under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a), the Court has the discretion<sup>1</sup> to authorize the filing of a civil case "without prepayment of fees or security thereof, by a person who submits an affidavit that . . . the person is unable to pay such fees or give security thereof." "Proceeding *in forma pauperis* in a civil case 'is a privilege, not a right—fundamental or otherwise." <sup>2</sup> To determine whether a party is eligible to file without prepayment of the fee, the Court

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Barnett ex rel. Barnett v. Nw. Sch., No. 00-2499, 2000 WL 1909625, at \*1 (D. Kan. Dec. 26, 2000) (citing Cabrera v. Horgas, 173 F.3d 863, at \*1 (10th Cir. April 23, 1999)).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> *Id.* (quoting *White v. Colorado*, 157 F.3d 1226, 1233 (10th Cir. 1998)).

commonly reviews the party's financial affidavit and compares his or her monthly

expenses with the monthly income disclosed therein.<sup>3</sup>

Both the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals and this Court have a liberal policy toward

permitting proceedings in forma pauperis.<sup>4</sup> After careful review of Plaintiff's description

of his financial resources (ECF No. 3, sealed), and comparison of Plaintiff's listed monthly

income to his listed monthly expenses, the Court finds he is financially unable to pay the

filing fee.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Plaintiff's Motion to Proceed Without

Prepayment of Fees (ECF No. 3) is GRANTED. Although Plaintiff proceeds in forma

pauperis, the clerk of the court is directed to stay service of process pending the Court's

review of the Report and Recommendation of dismissal filed simultaneously herein (ECF

No. 5).<sup>5</sup>

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated at Wichita, Kansas this 4<sup>th</sup> day of February 2022.

S/KENNETH G. GALE

KENNETH G. GALE

United States Magistrate Judge

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<sup>3</sup> Alexander v. Wichita Hous. Auth., No. 07-1149-JTM, 2007 WL 2316902, at \*1 (D. Kan. Aug. 9, 2007) (citing Patillo v. N. Am. Van Lines, Inc., No. 02-2162-JWL-DJW, 2000 WL 1162684, at \*1) (D. Kan. Apr. 15, 2002) and Webb v. Cessna Aircraft, No. 00-2229-JWL-DJW, 2000 WL 1025575,

at \*1 (D. Kan. July 17, 2000)).

<sup>4</sup> Mitchell v. Deseret Health Care Facility, No. 13-1360-RDR-KGG, 2013 WL 5797609, at \*1 (D.

Kan. Sept. 30, 2013) (citing, generally, Yellen v. Cooper, 828 F.2d 1471 (10th Cir. 1987)).

<sup>5</sup> See Webb v. Vratil, No. 12-2588-EFM-GLR, ECF No. 7 (Sept. 28, 2012) (withholding service of process pending review under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B) and Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(h)(3)) (citing Fuller v. Myers, 123 F. App'x 365, 368 (10th Cir. 2005)).

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